

What is claimed is:

1. An alignment system for multilingual documents as aligns the documents in n sorts (n being a natural number of at least 2) of languages, comprising:

morphological analysis means for dividing the document in each of the languages, every word;

means for selecting two of the n sorts of languages of the documents;

means for computing an evaluation function for the documents in the two selected sorts of languages; and

means for aligning the documents in the n sorts of languages, in accordance with an evaluated result for the documents in the two sorts of languages.

2. An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, wherein said morphological analysis means includes means for segmenting the document in each of the languages, every sentence, and means for further dividing each of the segmental sentences, every word.

3. An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, wherein said means for selecting two of the n sorts of languages of the documents selects $(n - 1)$ combinations of the k th and $(k + 1)$ th documents (k being a natural number of 1 to $(n - 1)$) when the documents in the n sorts of languages are arranged in any desired sequence.

4. An alignment system for multilingual documents as

defined in claim 1, wherein said means for selecting two of the n sorts of languages of the documents selects $n(n - 1)/2$ combinations.

5. An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, further comprising computed result holding means for holding therein results computed with the evaluation function.

6. An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, wherein the evaluation function is expressed by the following formula:

$$h(x, y) = 2 \times f_m(x, y) / (f_j(x) + f_j(y))$$

where $h(x, y)$ denotes the evaluation function, x denotes a sentence in one language (original sentence), y a sentence in the other language (translated sentence), $f_m(x, y)$ the number of independent words aligned in the sentences x and y , $f_j(x)$ the number of independent words in the sentence x , and $f_j(y)$ the number of independent words in the sentence y .

7. An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, further comprising means for displaying any mismatching part when alignments of the documents in at least three of the n sorts of languages of the documents have mismatched.

8. An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, wherein said means for computing an evaluation function aligns the documents while optimizing the

alignment so that a sum of values of the evaluation function may be maximized.

9. An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, further comprising means for indicating a language pair which affords a high correct solution rate of the alignment, while investigating similarity data between the pair of languages.

10. An aligning method for multilingual documents as aligns documents in n sorts (n being a natural number of at least 2) of languages, comprising:

the morphological analysis step of dividing the document in each of the languages, every word;

the step of selecting two of the n sorts of languages of the documents;

the step of computing an evaluation function for the documents in the two selected languages; and

the step of aligning the documents in the n sorts of languages, in accordance with an evaluated result for the documents in the two sorts of languages.

11. A program in which the steps for causing a computer to implement the aligning method for multilingual documents as defined in claim 10 are described.